

Minutes of the Bloomington Township Board

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. on February 29, 2016, at 2111 W. Vernal Pike.

Board members present were Barbara McKinney, Vic Kelson, and Kim Alexander. Also present were Trustee Lillian Henegar and Deputy Trustee Lisa Myers.

AGENDA

Barbara moved to accept the agenda as presented. Vic seconded, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Territory Formation: Lillian shared the supportive notes and responses she has received from residents of Washington Township.

The board members expressed their appreciation for the presentation given by Chief Faron Livingston at the first public hearing. Discussion followed regarding suggestions for future hearings such as adding information about the territory providing Bloomington Township the ability to maintain current staffing levels, and providing an opportunity for each Board member to speak, if they so choose.

The members of the Board expressed their concern on moving forward with a three township territory, when a member of the Benton Township Board has publicly urged the dissolution of the agreement at the end of the first contract year at the first public hearing and in a subsequent news article in the Herald Times.

Paige Sansone from Umbaugh & Associates joined the meeting via teleconference. Paige confirmed that a maximum levy limit can be established without utilizing the full levy each year. Paige explained that the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) may not approve the budget that was created using the staffing standards from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). The DLGF could determine that the levy necessary to support that budget is too high and reduce it to a number they decide is appropriate. Paige expressed her opinion to the Board that the February 23 public hearing was the most well organized hearing she had attended. Paige verified that the process will end for this application period if any one of the participating townships votes against the Territory at the final public hearing. Barbara asked if a participating township can be removed prior to the second public hearing. Paige stated that a new financial impact study would have to be completed and a new public notice would have to be published. Paige stated she would need to contact DLGF to verify this as a viable option. The Board instructed Paige to contact DLGF and report her findings to Lillian, the teleconference then ended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 10.

Vic Kelson, Secretary